



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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DONALD L. WOLFE, Director

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IN REPLY PLEASE

REFER TO FILE: T-0

July 26, 2007

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Donald L. Wolfe
Director of Public Works

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald L. Wolfe". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "D" and "W".

BOARD AGENDA DATE: JULY 31, 2007

AGENDA ITEM 3

THE OLD ROAD AT SAGECREST CIRCLE (NORTH AND SOUTH)

Item 3 on your Board's July 31, 2007, agenda is a Motion directing Public Works to install traffic signals at the two intersections of The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle. Included in the Motion is a requirement to report back to your Board, in 30 days, with our schedule for this installation. Consistent with your Board's adopted policy, we are informing you of the following.

Public Works performed a traffic signal warrant study at the intersection of The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle (north) in April 2006 in response to a request from an area resident. This study disclosed that none of the nationally-recognized warrants used to determine the need for multiway stop control or a traffic signal were satisfied. Therefore, we denied the request for the traffic signal. This decision was appealed by the area resident to the Highway Safety Commission (HSC). At the request of the HSC, another traffic signal warrant study was performed in October 2006. As in the previous study, the warrants were not satisfied and ultimately the HSC denied the request at its November 2006 meeting. Attached are the minutes for the HSC meetings of July 5, November 1, and December 6, 2006, which include reference to this matter.

Public Works did perform a traffic signal study for The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle (south) in July 2005. This study disclosed that none of the nationally-recognized warrants used to determine the need for multiway stop control or traffic signals were satisfied at this southerly intersection.

Each Supervisor
July 26, 2007
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If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact William H. Higley, Deputy Director, at (626) 458-4016.

BH:kw
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Attach.

cc: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

JULY 31, 2007

Sunset Pointe is a community of more than 300 homes in unincorporated Santa Clarita. Sagecrest Circle, a small collector street, is the main roadway that connects Sunset Pointe to the Santa Clarita Valley. Because this community is bounded by open space on the north, west, and south sides, the sole access to Sunset Pointe is two Sagecrest Circle 3-way intersections with The Old Road.

While The Old Road serves the Sunset Pointe community, it is also the main north-south arterial serving residents and businesses west of the Interstate 5 Freeway. The Old Road therefore experiences high traffic volumes in the AM and PM peak hour periods, as commuters travel to and from work and school. Whenever there is an emergency (such as a major traffic accident) along the I-5, The Old Road quickly becomes the preferred alternative route for motorists. Motorists also speed up or slow down as they travel to and from businesses along The Old Road. For all of these reasons, the residents of Sunset Pointe oftentimes experience significant delays when trying to make left or right turn movements exiting their community on to The Old Road.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Director of Public Works to install 3 -way traffic signals at both the northerly and southerly intersections of Sagecrest Circle and The Old Road in the Sunset Pointe neighborhood of unincorporated Santa Clarita, and report back to the Board of Supervisors within 30 days with a schedule to install and activate the traffic signals.

#

MDA:pno

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
AMENDED MINUTES OF JULY 5, 2006**

The meeting was held in Conference Room A at Public Works Headquarters.

1) Call to Order

The meeting of July 5, 2006, was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

Present: Chair Marvin Estey
Commissioner Robert Ringler
Commissioner Thurston Reese
Commissioner John Spix
Commissioner John Watkins

Absent: Commissioner Rhett Price
Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos

Also present were the following:

Ms. Adrienne Byers, County Counsel; Mr. William Higley, Deputy Director Mr. William Winter, Assistant Deputy Director; Mr. Paul Barbe, Civil Engineer; Mr. Dominic Osmeña, Associate Civil Engineer; Greg Jaquez, Associate Civil Engineer and Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant of Traffic and Lighting Division.

4) Approval of April 5, Minutes

The Minutes of April 5, 2006 were approved.

5) Citizen Appeal of Traffic Control Requests denied by Public Works

a) The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle North: Traffic Controls
Appellant: Ms. Elsa Nix

Mr. Osmeña presented the findings of a multi-way stop control study and a traffic signal study completed by the Department of Public Works (DPW) at the intersection of The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle North.

Mr. Osmeña informed the HSC that Ms. Elsa Nix requested DPW install a traffic signal or multi-way stop controls on The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle North for the following reasons:

- ◆ To assist school children crossing The Old Road at this location to access the northbound bus stop.
- ◆ To assist motorists on Sagecrest Circle North turning onto The Old Road.

Mr. Osmeña informed the HSC that Ms. Nix had stated that she believed the recently installed traffic signal at The Old Road at Chiquella Lane was installed in error and should have been installed at The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle North. Mr. Osmeña stated DPW did the following:

- ◆ Counted the number of vehicles and pedestrians at the intersection.
- ◆ Measured the speed of vehicles.
- ◆ Reviewed the reported collision data.
- ◆ Conducted a traffic signal study
- ◆ Conducted a multi-way stop study.
- ◆ Asked Santa Clarita Transit to review the appropriateness of the existing bus stop locations.

Mr. Osmeña stated that after completing the traffic signal and multi-way stop controls study at the intersection of The Old Road and Sagecrest Circle North, neither a traffic signal nor multi-way stop controls were recommended due to the following reasons:

- ◆ This location does not satisfy any of the DPW established warrants.
- ◆ Installing a traffic signal or multi-way stop at this location could actually increase the collision potential, particularly the rear-end type.

Commissioner Ringler asked DPW Staff what the definition of Warrant 2 "Interruption of Continuous Traffic" was. Ms. Guilmette referred him to look in his 2006 Traffic Commissioners Handbook to find an excerpt from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) that describes the meanings of the traffic signal warrants.

Mr. Paul Barbe informed Commissioner Ringler that he could come back with a written definition of Traffic Signal Warrant 2 at a future meeting if the HSC was unclear about this warrant.

Chair Estey asked if school was in session when the counts were taken. Ms. Nix informed the HSC that the counts were taken during spring break, not when school was in session. Ms. Nix asked what time the counts were taken because the morning peak times were between 6:00 am and 9:00 am. Mr. Osmeña informed Ms. Nix that the counts were taken between 6:00 am and 6:00 pm.

Ms. Nix informed the HSC that the motorists that use The Old Road at Chiquella Lane also use Sagecrest Circle North. She stated there were no speed limit signs on The Old Road near Sagecrest Circle North and that the only sign she was aware of was a 40 mph speed limit sign posted on The Old Road near the I-5 freeway. She informed the HSC that there are plans to build 23,000 more homes in the area and this will create more traffic through the intersection. Commissioner Spix stated that he visited the intersection on June 19, 2006 and observed a lot of traffic at the subject intersection. Ms. Nix informed the HSC that there was a fatal left-turn collision at the intersection on July 1, 2005 at the intersection. Chair Estey asked if the accident rate could increase if a traffic signal were installed at the intersection. Mr. Winter stated that collision experience varies from intersection to intersection and that the collision rate could increase if a traffic signal were installed at the intersection of The Old Road and Sagecrest Circle North.

Next to speak was Ms. Alicia Solis. Ms. Solis stated that she was at the meeting to support Ms. Nix and that she also believed a traffic signal should be installed at the subject intersection. Ms. Nix asked DPW Staff if it were possible to install a multi-way stop control instead.

After hearing testimony from Ms. Elsa Nix (the appellant), Ms. Alicia Solis (supporter of appellant), DPW Staff and HSC Staff, Commissioner Ringler made the following motion:

- a) Complete a new traffic signal study at the intersection of The Old Road and Sagecrest Circle North and Sagecrest Circle South after school resumes in September 2006. Conduct study between the hours of 6:00 am and 7:00 pm.
- b) Verify if there are enough speed limit signs along The Old Road in the vicinity of Sagecrest Circle North.
- c) Consider installation of "KEEP CLEAR" pavement markings and a "DO NOT BLOCK INTERSECTION" sign on The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle North.
- d) Consider installing a Side Road Symbol sign on The Old Road approaching Sagecrest Circle North.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Chair Estey asked for a five-minute break at 10:25 am. The meeting resumed at 10:33 am.

6) Informational Item: Removal of Crossing Guard at Loma Vista Elementary School

Mr. Jaquez presented the results of the crossing guard reevaluation study that was completed at the intersection of Carmenita Road at Meyer Road. The results were as follows:

- ◆ Required minimum 20 elementary school-aged pedestrians per hour.
 - Study Results, 8 pedestrians per hour (total all legs).
- ◆ Required minimum 10 vehicles per minute of signal green time.
 - Study Results, 14.6, 9.0, 9.7, and 9.8 vehicles per minute on each of the respective north, south, east and west legs.

Mr. Jaquez stated that due to the above mentioned data, a crossing guard was still not warranted and not recommended at the subject intersection.

7) Informational Item: Removal of Marked Crosswalks at Fair Oaks Drive at Calaveras Street and Fair Oaks Avenue at Mendocino Street.

Mr. Jaquez stated that DPW typically reevaluates existing roadway markings (such as crosswalks) and striping when roadways are resurfaced. Mr. Jaquez informed the HSC that there is a planned Reconstruction Project on Fair Oaks Avenue that includes the intersections of Fair Oaks Avenue at Calaveras Street and Fair Oaks Avenue at Mendocino Street. Mr. Jaquez stated that there are uncontrolled marked crosswalks on Fair Oaks Avenue at the intersections of Calaveras Street and Mendocino Street. Mr. Jaquez stated that DPW Staff evaluated the need for existing roadway markings and striping on Fair Oaks Avenue between Altadena Drive to the South of Woodbury Road. The conclusions of this study indicated the following:

- ◆ Counts of pedestrians showed very low usage of the crosswalk at Mendocino Avenue.
- ◆ An alternate crossing location for the Calaveras crosswalk exists at the intersection with Ventura Street which is signalized.
- ◆ Both of the crosswalks at Mendocino Avenue and Calaveras Street are uncontrolled.

- ♦ Marked uncontrolled crosswalks tend to give pedestrians a false sense of security.

Mr. Jaquez stated that due to the above mentioned data, the existing marked crosswalks on Fair Oaks Avenue at the intersections of Mendocino Avenue and Calaveras Street will be removed, pending the results of the public notice being posted at the intersections.

8) Review of Highway Safety Commission Policies and Procedures

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that due to the fact that some of the HSC Commissioners were unable to attend this meeting, this item will be tabled until the next scheduled HSC meeting.

9) Future Agenda Items

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that there are no upcoming appeals at this time. However, the HSC Policies and Procedures will be brought back at the next scheduled meeting.

7) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

A recording of the discussions held at this meeting is on file at Public Works. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for August 2, 2006, at Public Works Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted,



IRENA GUILMETTE
Executive Officer
Highway Safety Commission

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 1, 2006**

The meeting was held in Conference Room A at Public Works Headquarters.

1) Call to Order

The meeting of November 1, 2006, was called to order at 9:15 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

Present: Chair Marvin Estey
Commissioner Robert Ringler
Commissioner John Spix
Commissioner John Watkins
Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos

Absent: Commissioner Rhett Price
Commissioner Thurston Reese

Also in attendance were the following:

Mr. William Winter, Assistant Deputy Director; Mr. Anthony Nyivih, Senior Civil Engineer; Mr. Dominic Osmeña, Associate Civil Engineer and Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant of Traffic and Lighting Division.

4) Approval of October 4, 2006, Minutes

The Minutes of the October 4, 2006, HSC meeting were approved.

5) Citizen Appeal of Traffic Control Requests denied by Public Works

a) The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle (North): Traffic Controls
Appellant: Ms. Elsa Nix

This was the completion of an appeal that was first heard at the July 5, 2006, Highway Safety Commission (HSC) meeting.

The appellant had asked that the HSC reconsider this item after school-related traffic returned in Fall 2006.

Mr. Osmeña presented the findings of the most recent field work completed by the Department of Public Works (DPW) at the intersection of The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle (North). Mr. Osmeña informed the HSC that DPW completed the following:

- Counted the number of vehicles and pedestrians at the intersection. The counts were taken on a typical school day.
- Measured the speed of vehicles.
- Reviewed the reported collision data.
- Conducted a traffic signal study.
- Conducted a multi-way stop study.
- Asked Santa Clarita Transit to review the appropriateness of the existing bus stop locations.

Mr. Osmeña informed the HSC of the following recommendations and results of the past and most recent field work:

- Deny request for a traffic signal or multi-way stop because this intersection did not satisfy any established warrants. It was noted that the Average Daily Traffic (ADT) on The Old Road from our field work September 8, 2006 and September 11, 2006 is 18,000 vehicles per day (VPD), which is higher than the 17,000 VPD from March 10, 2006 and March 13, 2006. The prevailing speed on The Old Road was 46 miles per hour (mph).

Additionally, installing a traffic signal or multi-way stop at this location could actually increase the collision potential, particularly the rear end type.

- It was verified there are existing speed limit signs posted on The Old Road in the vicinity of Sagecrest Circle North. There is a southbound speed limit sign posted north of Sagecrest Circle North and one southbound speed limit sign posted at Sagecrest Circle North. There is a northbound speed limit sign posted at Sagecrest Circle South.

- The installation of additional pavement markings at the intersection to keep the intersection clear was not recommended at this time because traffic does not queue the 600 feet from Chiquella Lane.
- A side road sign is not recommended at this time because an advance "Sagecrest Circle" sign already exists for southbound The Old Road prior to Sagecrest Circle North.
- Santa Clarita Transit and Public Works relocated the northbound bus stop on The Old Road from Sagecrest Circle North to Chiquella Lane on June 22, 2006.

After hearing testimony from DPW Staff , HSC Staff and Ms. Nix (the appellant), Commissioner Spix made a motion to deny installation of a traffic signal and a multi-way stop control at the intersection of The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle North.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. Winter informed the HSC of the following:

- DPW Staff would keep the HSC updated on the timetable for deployment of a speed trailer on The Old Road.
- DPW Staff would investigate whether the California Department of Transportation (CALTRANS) was responsible for posting an Interstate 5 alternative route sign on The Old Road and report Staff's findings at the next meeting of the HSC.
- DPW Staff would investigate the possibility of installing additional advance intersection warning signs on The Old Road approaching Sagecrest Circle North.
- DPW Staff would contact the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to determine if they are interested in installing their Community Traffic Enforcement Area warning sign on The Old Road.
- DPW Staff would ask future developers that are putting trips on The Old Road to perform traffic signal warrant studies for both Sagecrest Circle (North) and (South) intersections with The Old Road.

6) Report on business other than appeals

Mr. Nyivih informed the HSC that a resident may want to appeal a denial of a red curb at a fire hydrant. He asked the HSC if they'd be willing to hear this type of appeal.

The HSC unanimously agreed to hear this appeal if requested by the constituent.

7) Reports from special committees

Commissioner Ringler suggested that the HSC consider forming special committees in order to keep up with new technology related to traffic issues.

He mentioned that the City of Los Angeles has a special committee to investigate the feasibility of using automated speed radar.

8) Special Orders

There were no Special Orders to report at this time.

9) Unfinished business and general notes

There was no unfinished business nor general notes to report at this time.

10) New Business

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that there will be a new appeal for a crossing guard removal at the intersection of Meyer Road at Mina Avenue/Beaty Avenue. This appeal item is scheduled to be heard at the December 6, 2006, HSC meeting.

Commissioner Villalobos mentioned there is a new community group in the East Los Angeles business corridor that is trying to address the problems of semi-truck parking. He was wondering what the limits of truck parking restrictions were along Beverly Boulevard.

DPW Staff informed Commissioner Villalobos that DPW Staff would investigate what the existing truck parking limits are along Beverly Boulevard and report back at the next HSC meeting.

Ms. Guilmette informed the Commission that DPW Staff is in the process of developing a web page for the HSC that would be accessible to the public.

11) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting was scheduled for December 6, 2006.

A recording of the discussions held at this meeting is on file at Public Works. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for December 6, 2006, at Public Works Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Irena Guilmette".

IRENA GUILMETTE
Executive Officer
Highway Safety Commission

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2006**

The meeting was held in The Alhambra Room at Public Works Headquarters.

1) Call to Order

The meeting of December 6, 2006, was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3) Roll Call

Present: Chair Marvin Estey
 Commissioner Robert Ringler
 Commissioner John Spix
 Commissioner John Watkins
 Commissioner Guillermo Villalobos
 Commissioner Rhett Price
 Commissioner Thurston Reese

Also in attendance were the following:

Mr. William Higley, Deputy Director; Mr. William Winter, Assistant Deputy Director; Mr. Anthony Nyivih, Senior Civil Engineer; Mr. Dominic Osmeña, Associate Civil Engineer; Mr. Gregory Jaquez, Associate Civil Engineer and Ms. Irena Guilmette, Supervising Civil Engineering Assistant of Traffic and Lighting Division.

4) Approval of November 1, 2006, Minutes

The Minutes of the November 1, 2006, HSC meeting were approved.

5) Citizen Appeal of Traffic Control Requests denied by Public Works

a) Meyer Road at Mina Avenue/Beaty Avenue: Crossing Guard
 Appellant: Principal Amin Oria

Mr. Jaquez presented the background information for this appeal. He indicated that traffic signals were installed at the intersection of Meyer Road and Mina Avenue/Beaty Avenue in September 2005.

He indicated that as a consequence, a re-evaluation of the intersection was conducted to determine if crossing guard service was still warranted. He also explained that the subject intersection is part of the existing "Suggested Pedestrian Route to School Map" for Loma Vista Elementary School.

Mr. Jaquez indicated that the following criteria is used to evaluate a crossing guard for a signalized intersection:

- Minimum of 20 elementary school-aged pedestrians per hour use the crosswalk.
- Minimum vehicular rate of 10 vehicles per minute of signal green time taken over a period of 15 minutes during the period when children are required to go to and from school.

Mr. Jaquez indicated that the Crossing Guard Study indicated that the intersection of Meyer Road at Mina Avenue/Beaty Avenue does not meet the minimum criteria for crossing guard service. He stated that DPW Staff recommends cancellation of crossing guard service at this intersection.

The Highway Safety Commission (HSC) then listened to the presentation by the appellant, Ms. Amin Oria. After both presentations were completed, the (HSC) had discussion. Commissioner Price then made the following motion:

- Recommend continuing crossing guard service at the intersection of Meyer Road at Mina Avenue/Beaty Avenue until December 2009, at which time the intersection should be reevaluated to determine whether crossing guard service should remain.
- Recommend Loma Vista School Staff work with both parents and law enforcement regarding education and enforcement of the various traffic violations occurring at the intersection of Meyer Road at Mina Avenue/Beaty Avenue.

The motion was carried unanimously.

6) Report on business other than appeals

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC that Mr. Dominic Osmeña was going to present an update on some items the HSC asked DPW Staff to evaluate regarding The Old Road at Sagecrest Circle (North).

Mr. Osmeña presented the following update to the HSC:

- DPW has informed the California Highway Patrol (CHP) that they would like radar speed trailers deployed on The Old Road when they receive the new radar speed trailers from DPW.

Mr. Winter added that DPW has recently purchased radar speed trailers for the CHP and is planning to hold a press event to announce the deployment of the radar speed trailers. The HSC will be invited to this press event.

- DPW Staff has verified that there are no permanent signs on The Old Road or Interstate 5 indicating using The Old Road as an alternate route. However, during construction, contractors may have posted alternate route signs on The Old Road.
- DPW investigated the possibility of installing advance side road symbols on The Old Road approaching Sagecrest Circle. DPW determined that advance side road symbols would be inappropriate because there are existing advance street name signs
- DPW Staff is working closely with the Newhall CHP to consider having Community Traffic Enforcement Area warning signs posted on The Old Road and Sagecrest Circle.
- DPW Staff is currently aware of the Newhall Ranch Development and the new development west of Pico Canyon Road. DPW Staff will ask future developers to contribute their fair share of costs toward any future traffic signals that may become warranted with additional traffic created by these developments.

Mr. Winter informed the HSC that on November 1, 2006, DPW management team endorsed a five-year Strategic Plan for DPW. This Strategic Plan tries to continue DPW's Mission of "Enhancing our communities through responsive and effective public works services. Mr. Winter stated he would provide the HSC with an overall review of this Strategic Plan at an upcoming meeting.

7) Reports from special committees

Ms. Guilmette stated there were no special committees items to report at this time.

8) Special Orders

There were no Special Orders to report at this time.

9) Unfinished business and general notes

There was no unfinished business nor general notes to report at this time.

10) New Business

Ms. Guilmette informed the HSC there were no new appeal items to be heard by the HSC. Ms. Guilmette informed the Commission that DPW Staff is in the process of developing a web page for the HSC that would be accessible to the public.

11) Date for next meeting announced and adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting was scheduled for January 3, 2007.

A recording of the discussions held at this meeting is on file at Public Works. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 3, 2007, at Public Works Headquarters.

Respectfully submitted,



IRENA GUILMETTE
Executive Officer
Highway Safety Commission

IG:

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